



Louis H. Bruni
County Judge

1000 Houston St. 3rd Floor
Laredo, Texas 78040

(956) 523-4600
Fax (956) 523-5065

WEBB COUNTY PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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CONTACT: Raul Casso

STATE OF TEXAS APPROVES WEBB COUNTY'S BRIDGE APPLICATION

WACO – The Texas Transportation Commission today approved Webb County's application to construct a new international bridge in South Webb County, which the county has named "Puente de la Unidad."

"We are elated that the State of Texas has approved our bridge application," said Webb County Judge Louis H. Bruni. "We will continue to seek a partnership with the City of Laredo on this very important project because it is in the best interest of the people we jointly represent, but we are prepared to move forward on our own, if we must."

Webb County Commissioner Judith Gutierrez, who made a brief presentation before the Transportation Commission, said, "This is an important step toward building a bridge that will benefit not only the citizens of Webb County and Laredo, but also all the people of Texas and Mexico."

"We are delighted that TxDOT and the Texas Transportation Commission have approved our application for our Puente de la Unidad," said Gutierrez. "We are ready to move forward and submit our application to the federal government for consideration."

In his presentation to the Transportation Commission, TxDOT Director of Transportation Planning and Programming James Randall noted that Texas law requires that any bridge

application must be approved by the Texas Transportation Commission before it may be considered by the U.S. Department of State and other federal agencies.

Transportation Commission Chairman Ric Williamson and Commissioner Robert Nichols complimented Webb County officials for their professionalism and persistence in working to see this project to fruition.

The City of Laredo's application was not on the agenda, nor did the City make a presentation.

A copy of the Minute Order approved by the Texas Transportation Commission is attached.

For additional information, please contact Commissioner Judith Gutierrez via mobile at (956) 740-1425 or Gaby Garcia, TxDOT Public Information, at (512) 475-2134.

-- 2 pages attached --